

1999 ANNUAL REPORT

Utah State Library Division BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED SERVICES PROGRAM

The Program for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Utah State Library Division, provides public library service for the blind, visually impaired and the learning disabled. The program is part of a national network of libraries administered through Library of Congress and the National Library Service.

The Utah State Library Division, Program for the Blind and Physically Handicapped served 12,075 patrons in FY 1998-99. Utah serves the patrons of Wyoming with total library service. Fourteen states (Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Wisconsin) contract with the library for braille services. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints also contracts with the library to circulate Mormon literature to members who qualify for service in the United States and Canada.

Fiscal year 1998-99 was a monumental year for the State Library. After 31 years at 2150 South 300 West, the State Library moved to a new facility at 250 North 1950 West. Construction on the new facility began in October, 1997. The staff began moving the collection in mid-September, 1998 and the move was completed December 31, 1998. The library staff, along with movers and Oxbow Jail help, moved 1,112,975 books. The library is housed with the State Services for the Visually Impaired. The building consists of 137,800 square feet of space. The Library for the Blind occupies 62,620 square feet of space, which also includes the Multistate Center West.

SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

The Utah State Library for the Blind offered a Summer Reading Program, "*Treasure Your Library*". With a treasure, pirates and boating theme, the program was offered to children ages 5 to 12, who are registered with the Library for the Blind in Utah and Wyoming. As the children enrolled, they received a packet containing a booklist, reading logs, a treasure chest to put gold coins in, activities for summer fun, a pencil and a temporary tattoo. As the children read, they placed a sticker on the reading log. When they have seven stickers on the log, they turned in the log to receive a gold coin and a prize. If they turned in three or more reading logs by the end of the program, a Grand Prize was awarded. Community sponsors for the prizes included Burger King, Meadow Gold, Lagoon, Hogle Zoo, Utah State Parks and Recreation Boating Program, 7-Eleven and the Utah Travel Council. This year 48 children participated in the program, reading a total of 12,739 minutes for the program.

An Open House and Dedication was held on April 24, 1999, for the new building. Over 300 patrons attended the Open House and Dedication. Main guest speakers were Frank Kurt Cylke from the National Library Service; Frank Layden, President of the Utah Jazz; selected members of the Utah State Senate and House of Representatives, as well as speakers from local and national blind organizations. Tours of the new building were given to those who were interested.

The Library was host to the KLAS (Keystone Library Automated Systems) User Group Conference in March, 1999. The Conference was attended by over 40 participants representing 16 different KLAS libraries in the three-day session.

The library added two more states, Mississippi and Wisconsin, for braille services. Mississippi was added in January with 54 patrons, and Wisconsin was added in June with 414 patrons.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

During the move, the Consumer Advisory Committee was able to meet only once during FY 1998-99. The Committee re-elected Tom Mitchell as the chair and Maxine Penrod as vice-chair. The Committee made a motion that the City and County Libraries make available access to their catalogs and other materials for the visually impaired by adding software and hardware which will give the blind and visually impaired equal access.

CIRCULATION

The library added 1,956 new patrons in fiscal year 1998-99. This is a 13% increase in new patrons. Total patron count increased 12%. Since the library was not circulating books from September 15, 1998 to December 15, 1998, circulation decreased.

In September, 1999, Keystone Inc. made enhancements to the automated circulation system, which improved service to the patrons. The library is now able to download new book data from the National Library Service. As a result, this function no longer has to be keyed in by a data entry staff person.

National Library Service, Library of Congress, produces 21 disc magazines, 26 cassette magazines, and 32 braille magazines. Patrons can receive such periodicals as Good Housekeeping, National Geographic, Sports Illustrated, and many other popular magazines.

Circulation Statistics for Magazines				
STATES	RECORDED DISC	BRAILLE	CASSETTE	TOTAL
Utah & Wyoming*	16,800	26,100	9,700	52,600

*National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, The Library of Congress (November, 1999).

Circulation Statistics for Books							
State/ Contract	Number of Patrons	Circulation					
		Recorded Disc	Recorded Cassettes	Large Print	Braille	Descriptive Video	TOTAL
Utah	8,286	358	176,687	7,902	2,857	998	188,802
Wyoming	1,724	97	47,967	844	387	67	49,362
Alaska	35				403		403
Arizona	119				2,190		2,190
Colorado	160				3,306		3,306
Idaho	67				825		825
Kansas	94				1,913		1,913
Mississippi	54				1,364		1,364
Montana	37				694		694
Nebraska	86				2,545		2,545
Nevada	45				1,281		1,281
New Mexico	107				1,261		1,261
North Dakota	22				198		198
Oklahoma	136				3,348		3,348
South Dakota	45				1,357		1,357
Wisconsin	413				2,178		2,178
LDS Church	645		6,973		53		7,026
TOTALS	12,075	455	231,627	8,746	26,160	1,065	268,053

EQUIPMENT

National Library Service provides special cassette players, disc players and combination (disc/cassette) players to be used by patrons. The equipment is on loan to patrons who qualify for service in Utah. The library provides special closed circuit radio receivers to patrons in Utah who are able to receive the radio reception. Wyoming has its own Machine Lending Agency.

Equipment Statistics		
EQUIPMENT	IN CIRCULATION	TOTAL
Disc Players	832	982
Cassette Players (including Combination Machine)	6,422	8,467
Radio Receivers	1,060	1,349
TOTAL	8,314	10,798

RADIO READING SERVICE

Four daily newspapers, Salt Lake Tribune, Deseret News, Ogden Standard Examiner, and the Logan Herald Journal, as well as other timely materials are broadcast to handicapped patrons via a special frequency FM radio. Programs are broadcast Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 12:00 AM (midnight). The Church News and the Parade Magazine from the Sunday newspapers are broadcast on the weekend.

The weekend program has been expanded by an additional hour with the cooperation of the Salt Lake Tribune staff and the addition of two volunteer readers at the State Library. This extension includes the Travel, Art, Business and Living sections of the weekend Salt Lake Tribune.

Reception is currently available along the Wasatch Front, in Cache Valley and in the Cedar City/St. George areas of the state. In order to receive the programs, a special receiver is available on loan. The Radio Reading Service broadcasts 4,628 hours each year with two full-time staff members, the assistance of 36 volunteers, and an on-site engineered automation system.

HOLDINGS

National Library Service produces talking books on cassette and braille. To supplement the national program, the library records books written by local authors, books of regional interest, or materials requested by patrons. The library also purchases large print books and descriptive videos. Books by local authors and/or of local interest are also brailled by the library. The books are selected by the librarians for the collection.

Holdings by Format		
FORMAT	TITLES	COPIES
Braille	11,975	92,865
Recorded Disc	1,855	14,748
Cassette	37,909	247,347
Large Print	9,997	14,748
Descriptive Video	225	486
TOTAL	61,961	370,194

During the past year the library added 225 new titles to the collection on tape and 6 titles in braille. In addition to books, the library braille sports schedules, i.e. Utah Jazz, Salt Lake Buzz (baseball) and the football and basketball schedules of all major colleges in Utah. Also brailled were materials for state agencies and other organizations. The library brailled a total of 44,484 pages.

Local Production

I. RECORDED MATERIALS	TITLES
A. Books	225
TOTAL	225

II. DUPLICATION	TITLES	COPIES
A. Prison		
1. Books	1,220	6,154
2. Magazines	130	3,107
TOTAL	1,350	9,261

III. BRAILLE PRODUCTION	TITLES	PAGES
A. Books	6	2,671
B. Materials for other agencies	61	5,043
C. In-house materials	62	36,770
TOTAL	129	44,484

PUBLICATIONS

The table below lists program publications produced during the year. Most of these are printed in large print. Publication titles followed by an “*” are also brailled. The program produces its publications in small quantities. This requires that they be revised and reprinted often, but ensures that they are accurate and current.

Publications		
Title	Date	Quantity
Magazines on Flexible Disc, on Cassette, ...	October 1998	1,000
Magazines in Braille*	October 1998	250
	May 1999	500
	September 1999	500
Patron Handbook*	November 1998	500
	April 1999	600
	September 1999	700
Mormon Fiction and History*	November 1998	500
	May 1999	500
Program Brochure	November 1998	1,500
Descriptive Videos*	November 1998	150
Romance Novels	November 1998	100
	June 1999	100
Historical Novels...	November 1998	150
Biographies and Other Nonfiction	January 1999	150
Large Print Books for Children...	January 1999	100
Mystery and Detective Novels	January 1999	150
Mormon Literature*	June 1999	500
Westerns, Adventures, and ...	July 1999	100
Application for Service	July 1999	3,000
Mormon Literature for Youth...*	August 1999	50
Survey for Radio Reading Service	September 1999	1,200

A variety of forms, form letters, property stickers, etc. are also produced.

A new catalog, Mormon Literature for Youth and Young Adults, was introduced this year.

SeeNote, the program's quarterly newsletter, continues to be produced in large print and braille. Over 7,000 copies of the newsletter are mailed to all patrons in Utah and Wyoming.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

During FY 1998-99, volunteer activities continued to support the Program for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. The variety of service categories, numbers of volunteers, and hours of service provided by those volunteers are reflected in the statistics below. As in previous years, each volunteer was presented with a Christmas "*Thank You*" letter and a Utah Travel Council calendar during December.

In December of 1998, the Utah State Library moved into its new building at 250 North 1950 West, Salt Lake City, Utah. Many volunteers were used in the move. Sharon Crandall retired from the Utah State Library as the Volunteer Coordinator for the Program for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in January, 1999. James Shulfer was hired at the end of April, 1999, as her replacement.

New partnerships were developed in the summer of 1999. Deseret Book has agreed to donate a complimentary copy of each book to the Utah State Library Division, along with making all their publications available in electronic formats so that it may be printed in braille by our program.

Other partnerships have began with Westminster College Volunteer Center and Salt Lake Community College Emma Lou Thayne Volunteer Center to help college students get involved with the Program for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. KSL employee program, "Make a Difference", also provided volunteers.

The book inspection service continued to be staffed by volunteers five days a week. This volunteer service ensures that patrons will be able to complete their reading of a book without technical difficulties. Containers are inspected to determine if any cassette needs repair. Each cassette is rewound, if needed. Each container is evaluated to be certain it is intact, and each cassette or record is put in numerical order so the first tape is on top.

South Point Reading for the Blind, located at the Draper site of the Utah State Prison continues to impact volunteer service in the Program for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Inmates are used to record textbooks, books of local interest, magazines and programs for the Radio Reading Service. They also duplicate copies of the materials they read, as well as copies of previously recorded materials, which are then added to the collection for distribution to patrons.

The machine repair program continues to provide volunteers to inspect and repair record players, cassette players and radio receivers. These volunteers are provided with a specially equipped work room. Their ongoing commitment to this project enables the library to keep an adequate number of machines in working order for distribution to patrons.

Machine Repair Statistics	
REPAIR TYPE	QUANTITY
Talking book machines repaired by Telephone Pioneers	17
Talking book machines repaired by other than Telephone Pioneers	0
Cassette machines repaired by Telephone Pioneers	205
Cassette machines repaired by other than Telephone Pioneers (not including warranty machines sent to Telex)	860
Radio Receivers repaired by Telephone Pioneers	27
TOTAL	1,109

Volunteers who come to the recording studios at the State Library help record Utah's largest daily newspapers, national weekly magazines, special programs for the Radio Reading Service, textbooks for students, special materials requested by patrons, and books not produced by the National Library Service.

Volunteer Statistics		
SERVICE CATEGORY	NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS	HOURS OF SERVICE
STATE LIBRARY		
Book Narrators	16	261
Book Inspection	36	710
Machine Repair - Telephone Pioneers	9	1,142
RADIO READING SERVICE VOLUNTEERS		
State Library Radio Narrators	36	1,003
Utah State Prison	1	430
UTAH STATE PRISON		
South Point Reading for the Blind Program	44	
Narrator Hours		15,297
Tape Duplication Hours		7,281
Coordination/Supervision		3,382
Editing/Review		15,078
Clerks/Janitorial		4,485
Repair		3,619
OXBOW JAIL (Moving)	30	7,160
TOTAL	172	59,848

*Of the total volunteer hours, the Utah State Prison donated 49,142 of those hours.

MULTISTATE CENTER WEST

Since April 1974, the Utah State Library has been under contract with the Library of Congress to operate the Multistate Center West (MSCW), which serves twenty-four states. The Multistate Center West also circulates books to United States citizens living abroad. The Center is the western distribution point for the Library of Congress, and supplies the regional libraries in twenty-four western states with backup materials, such as books in all formats, equipment for reading the books, and catalogs and other literature.

MSCW Circulation	
FORMAT	CIRCULATION
Braille	1,513
Recorded Cassette	24,379
Recorded Disc	522
Magazines	372
TOTAL	26,786

MSCW Holdings by Format		
FORMAT	TITLES	COPIES
Braille	32,292	42,318
Recorded Disc	12,746	77,350
Recorded Cassette	40,440	323,520
TOTAL	85,478	443,188